

Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Philosophical Transactions N.199. Fig: 2. Fig:15. h

that the Flames rolled down Stairs. The Clap of Thunder which immediately followed seemed to all like the fuddain Discharge of five or fix Field-pieces, not with that rolling, deep noise Thunder usually carries along with it: Indeed, for my part, I thought it had been Guns. The Second Flash and Clap followed within a few Minutes of the first, but not with that Violence as the former: Which Flash sir'd the Steeple I cannot say, but a piece of Wood to which the Lead of the Windows was nailed (the Windows being nothing but Lead cut full of Holes) was fet on fire, and kindled very fast, and might have done a great deal of Mischief, had not the earliness of the Night, and timely help prevented it. This Storm seemed to run in a direct Course: for several of our fide-Towns perceived little of it; and I believe it broke chiefly over us, for I hear of no Effects it had any where else, but only at Kettering, where one of their Bells, as some say, received some damage, and the Wires of the Chimes were twisted one within another: The Wind was very blustering all the Night after.

Oundle, Apr. 22.

Tours, &c.

VI. Anatomical Observations in the Heads of Fowl made at several times. By the late Allen Moulen, M.D. S.R.S. Read before the Royal Society, Feb. 1. 1683.

portunity to examine, I constantly found only one Aquaductus, or Passage from the Ears into the Pallat; whereas

Whereas in Men, Quadrupedes, and some Amphibious Fish, there are always two, one on each side below the entrance of the Nostrils into the Pallat, and opening towards the Nostrils, for the more convenient reception of Air, as is supposed. This Passage in Fowl is exactly in the middle of the Pallat, below the entrance of the Nostrils into it: It is a membranous Tube, capable of admitting a Ravens, if not a Goose Quill in larger Fowl, such as Turkeys, Geese, &c. and reaches backward as far as the Communication from Ear to Ear, and hence it comes to serve both; whereas there is a necessity of two in those Animals, whose Ears do not communicate.

2. I have purposely examined the Heads of all the Species of Fowl I could procure, and constantly found a hollow space between the two Tables between the Os Cuneiforme reaching from Ear to Ear, and as far forward as the aforesaid common Aquæductus, or rather Ductus Aereus, the contrivance of it seeming more to savour this than the former use. This Cavity in all Fowl (as far as I have observ'd) reaches above the Labyrinthus on each side, so that whatever impulse is made on the Tympanum on the one fide, may not only be very readily communicated by means of the internal Air to the Labyrinthus of the same, but also to that of the opposite side. Hence probably proceeds the quickness of Hearing and Vigi-lancy of Fowl, notwithstanding their wanting a Cochlea, the defect of which seems to be by this Structure more than supplied, no other Creatures that we know of having any thing of it. It is not improbable that the opposite Ear to a Sound is altogether as much affected by it as that next it, if not more. There are several La. minulæ and Pillars of hard Bone between the two Tables in these Caveties, designed, as may be supposed, partly for their Maintenance at a convenient distance, and partly for breaking of the Air, so as to hinder Ecchoes

choes and confus'd representations of Objects. In confirmation of which last Reason Sir John Hoskins did ingeniously observe, that Pillars in Churches very much prevented Ecchoes: And for the same reason these might also hinder them in the Heads of this particular Structure.

3. In the Heads of Woodcocks, besides the passages now describ'd, I found one on each side the Bone, making the Orbit of the Eye proceeding from the Ear, and reaching forward towards the setting on of the Beak, near which they join'd in one, and turn'd under the Skull in a small passage leading to the Cavity, by which the Ears communicate, and which is above describ'd, into which it enters. These passages are also in the Heads of Snites; and moreover, one over the Sinus Longitudinalis, and another over the Sinus Lateralis of the Brain. Note, that in the killing of Snites and smaller Birds, if care be not taken that the Head be not bruis'd, these passages cannot be discover'd for Blood extravafated in them. Note also, that the Laminulæ and bony Pillars are every where to be observ'd where there is a passage, excepting under the Skull, in the passage from the setting of the Bill to the first passage describ'd.

4. In the Heads of Parrots and Paroquets, besides the first describ'd passage, I observ'd between the two Tables every where Cells opening into others, and those into others, so that there was not any part scarcely of the Skull that was not taken up with them. And this did not only appear by pouring into one Ear freed from its Drum, the other also being removed, a Tincture of Cochinel, and then blowing of it into all these Cells, so that no part was free from Tincture, but it appeared also to the naked Eye, notwithstanding that sometimes it was difficult to trace the Communications of them by reason of numerousness of the Laminulæ and Pillars aforesaid.

Y

5. In Singing Birds the Sructure of these passages is like that of the Parrot and Paroquett, only that the Pillars and Laminulæ are less than they should seem to be in proportion to the Heads. From whence it is probable, that these Birds are by this Structure enabled to distinguish Sounds and Notes, and also imitate them better, having a more musical Ear.

6. In the Heads of *Pullets*, Geefe and Ducks I found only the first describ'd passage distinctly, but in *Pluvers*, Bustards, and some other, I found another that went over the Sinus Lateralis of the Brain from Ear to Ear. This seems to be design'd to make them more watchful than Domestick Fowl, or yet those that live much on the Water, because they are liable to a great many Dangers that the others are exempt from. Note, that there are for the most part great varieties in the Structures of all Fowls Heads.

7. In the Ears of all the Fowl that I could examine, I never found any more than one Bone and a Cartilage, making a Joint with it that was easily moveable. The Cartilage had generally an Epiphise or two, one on each side, which were very flexible, as it self was. The Bone was small and very hard, having at the end of it a broad Plate of the same Substance very thin, upon which it rested as on its Basis. I got that of a Pullets Ear, represented in Fig. 4. where a is the main Cartilage, and b b the two Epiphyses, c the small Bone, and d the Basis or broad end of it. Note, that in the Figure, part of the Drum sticking to it is represented together with the Cartilages.

8. I observed three pair of Nerves in all the broad bill'd Birds that I could meet with, and in all such as feel for their Food out of their sight, as Snites, Wood-cocks, Curlews, Geese, Ducks, Teale, Widgeon, &c. These Nerves are very large, equalling almost the Optick Nerve in thickness; they begin a little more forward than the

Auditory

Auditory Nerve from a little Protuberance which scems to be made for them: One of them goes over the Optick Nerve in the Orbit of the Eye, the other two go under the Eye. Two are distributed nighthe end of the upper Bill, and are there very much expanded, passing through the Bone into the Membrane, lineing the Roof of the Mouth. The third Pair is distributed near the end of the lower Bill, and subdivided like the former. Note, that Birds that pick their Food where they can fee it have not these Nerves, and that the Pair of Nerves belonging to the upper Bill is confiderably smaller in proportion to the Fowls than those observ'd above; whence it is probable that these Nerves were designed for some great use, both on the account of their number and their largeness; and that the use to be assign'd to them must be to enable them to distinguish (whether by tasting or feeling I will not now diffinguish) their Food, there being a necessity of a more exquisite Sense in these Fowl, than in any other. Fig. 15. represents these in a Ducks Head, where a a expresses the Edge of the Cranium, which was in part remov'd for the more clear view of these Nerves, b b are the Cells about the Ear between the two Tables above described, cc the Brain laid bare with its Blood-Vessels, d dd the three Nerves on one side, e the Optick Nerve, fff the Skin and part of the Bone remov'd to bring the Nerve in view, g g the two Nerves expanded near the end of the upper Bill, h h that in the lower.

9. All the Eyes of Fowl and of Fish that I have examined were more or less cartilaginous; for the Sclerotis is a Cartilago sui generis, especially near the Cornea in all these Animals. And in the larger sorts of both I remembred to have found the whole Sclerotis such a kind of a Cartilage.

Y .2

ro. In the Eyes of Fish I observed that the Processus Ciliaris is not fastned to the joining of the Cornea & Sclerotis, as in all other Animals that I dissected, so as to hinder the watery Humour to go any further backward. For I constantly observed that the Humor Ciqueus may move a good way backward in some, and in others almost as far as the Optick Nerve. I shall at another time make some Remarks on this.

examine carefully, found a Membrane which cover'd the Tunica Cornea, so as not to let any Water come to it. This answers the Membrana Nictitans in Fowl, and reaches on all sides to the Cutis of the Fish to which it is fastned; this is transparent, and pretty thin, and so is also the Cornea, if compar'd to that of the Quadru-

peds.

12. I have frequently observ'd in smaller Fowl, that the Membrane of the Drum was double; for I have by gently pulling away the Membrane lining the Tube of the Ear, I observ'd at the bottom of it a transparent Membrane, which at first I took to be the Membrane of the Drum, but upon Examination I found that the Membrane of the Drum was still entire and in its proper place. I have fometimes observed this in larger Fowl, in a Seal. and in some other Animals, and am apt to think from a case mentioned in Du Verneyes Book of the Ear, that it is so in Men; and if so, it is likely it may be so in most, if not in all Animals. The Observation was as followeth: A Person that was deaf for some time died. whose Ears Mr. Du Verneye examin'd, in order to find out the cause of his Deafness, which he found to be a thick Membrane growing in the Ear before the Drum. which hindred the Impulses in the Air to be communica-Now I take it to be more likely that the Membrane should be double, and that the outward was preternaturally incrassated, then that a Membrane should grow in a place where the fides do not touch.